

this is a good piece of legislation because it's telling the regular classroom teacher you are going to be involved with special ed students in your regular classroom, we are going to give you some working knowledge of the special kinds of things that these students are going to require. And I think we had a teacher candidate testify at the hearing and she said that she had been...she was like in her fifth year and just about to get her certificate and had not had any exposure at all to dealing with handicapped children. I think this is something that we simply cannot have in this state anymore, and we need to have these teachers have this kind of training to deal with the handicapped students. With that, I would just urge your advancement of the bill.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Bernard-Stevens, on the advancement of LB 392.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President. I'm not going to say very much. I have difficulty with this particular bill. I had difficulty on the bill in committee. I didn't vote against it, I didn't vote for it either so that the bill could at least be talked about on consent calendar at some point. But I always have a problem making blanket rules that everyone will follow, whether it will apply to them or not. I know of many, many, many instructors who have not had a handicapped person within one of their classrooms in over 13 to 15 years of teaching. To me somehow it seems more reasonable to say something to the tune of if an instructor is going to have or is scheduled to have, or has a class that certainly there will be handicapped students, that the district offer the proper inservice so that an instructor would have that inservice before that situation arose. But to simply say we're going to have a blanket course, and then maybe 15 years later or 10 years later I happen to have a handicapped student, and assume that that course is, in fact, going to have been of great value to me 10 or 15 years later, I think is stretching the imagination somewhat. So to that degree I'm not real pos...I don't have real positive feelings for this particular bill at this time. Thank you, Madam President.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Is there any further discussion on the advancement of LB 392? Senator Baack, there are no further lights, would you like to close?

SENATOR BAACK: Just a short closing. I understand Senator